

Appl. No. 10/030,266  
Amendment dated July 12, 2005  
Reply to Final Office Action of February 14, 2005

#### REMARKS

Claims 11 and 13-20 are pending in the application. Claim 12 has been canceled and its elements added to claims 11 and 18, introducing no new matter to the application. Moreover, it is believed the claims as amended herein avoid the art of record.

Claims 11 and 18 as amended cover a process wherein the ratio of isocyanate groups in the prepolymer to isocyanate-reactive functional groups is about 1:1 to about 1.15:1. The Examiner maintained the prior rejection over Kest, noting applicants' error in using the equivalent weight for the molecular weight of the polyol. Correcting this error yields ratios NCO(B):OH(A) of 0.92:1 and 2:1 in Kest's Examples 2 and 5, which fall outside the claims as amended.

Neither does Kest suggest the claimed ratio, since it does not explicitly concern itself with the ratio at all. Indeed, these ratios in Kest are only implied and must be calculated. For the same reason applicants' range cannot be considered routine optimization. This doctrine only applies where the reference recognizes the variable at issue as result-effective; a reference that does not recognize the variable at all cannot pass this test. For these reasons applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now patentable over the art of record.

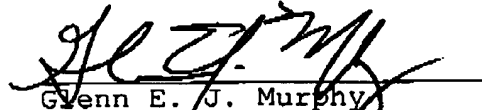
#### CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants ask for reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims. Should any fees be due for entry and consideration of this Amendment that have not been accounted for, the Commissioner is

Appl. No. 10/030,266  
Amendment dated July 12, 2005  
Reply to Final Office Action of February 14, 2005

authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 01-1250.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Glenn E. J. Murphy  
(Reg. No. 33,539)  
Attorney for Applicants  
610-278-4926

GEM/ing

Henkel Corporation  
Law Department  
2200 Renaissance Boulevard, Suite 200  
Gulph Mills, PA 19406